Facilities to SC/ST candidates

324. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to increase for the SC/ST candidates; (i) hostel, Pre-examination coaching facility; (ii) amount of scholarship, stipend etc. in all classes and training courses; and (iii) relaxation of fee and other dues in technial and nontechnical classes; and

(b) if so what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b) Government has provided the following funds for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the schemes during 1991-92.

(i) (a) Girls Hostels . . . . . Rs. 12 crores

Boys Hostels . . . . . Rs. 8 crores

(b) Pre-examination coaching facilities . . . . . Rs. 1·75 crores

(ii) Pre-matric Scholarships for the children of those engaged in unclean occupation.... Rs. 4 crores

(iii) All eligible Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe.

students pursuing post-matric technicl and non-technical courses in recognised institutions are reimbursed all compulsory fees as wedd as thesis typing/printing charges upto Rs. 600/- to research scholars.

Retrenchment of empoyees by STC

325. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Trading Corporation propose to retrench its employees;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard including procedure that will be followed for retrenchment; and

(c) what steps State Trading Corporation would take to protect the interest of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe employees while so doing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) There is, at present, no proposal for retrenchment of employees of State Trading Corporation.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Deplorable condition of patel chest institute

326. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the deplorable condition of Patel Chest Institute in Delhi;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof: and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. D. K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c) There is nothing to indicate that the condition of the Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute (VPCI) is deplorable. All its Departments including Clinical Research Centre have been functioning. Routine and specialised referral laboratory diagnostic services have been functional. Admissions of patients for research/special diagnostic investigations which were suspended, have since been resumed. Teaching for all the postgraduate courses has also been conducted as per the schedule.